

Safety will always remain a major consideration when conducting training and combat operations. The 1st Armored Division Team is training across the entire Division footprint and Soldiers, along with leaders, have been doing many things that are, and may start becoming routine. The familiarity of a routine training sequence, combined with operations in austere and arduous conditions, along with fatigue can create a possible false sense of safety and hesitation of awareness. The old mindset of "we have been doing this for a long time and nothing has happened" cannot dictate what the standard is. The long period of continuous training operations is more of a major reason we cannot afford to let our guard down in the area of safety and lose anyone to carelessness. Noncommissioned Officers and all Soldiers are responsible for each other and it is critical to the well being of all Soldiers that everyone continues to place emphasis towards safety in all areas. The emphasis towards safety on weapon awareness, speeding, seatbelt use, heaters, fire safety, tent safety, ground guides when appropriate, sleeping area safety, hot/cold weather injury prevention, rollover drills, are just a few. Check all areas of operations and include all that is appropriate to maintain the standard of safety that will keep Soldiers alive and prevent needless injury and death. All Soldiers are needed for the success of the team and all Soldiers are responsible for making sure everyone adheres to a standard of safety consistent with the successful completion of the mission. Noncommissioned Officers and Soldiers - continue to do what you do for the team and let us all do our part to get everyone trained safely.

"A Safe Soldier will create a Safe environment for the Safety of all Soldiers"

"Iron Soldiers"



Roger P. Blackwood
Command Sergeant Major

1st Armored Division